

## The Times-Dispatch.

Published Daily and Weekly

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1903.

## NO PAPER TO-MORROW.

The Times-Dispatch will not be issued to-morrow. Following the custom observed by the Richmond papers for many years, all of our employees will be given holiday and have the privilege of spending Christmas with their families and friends. To these, as well as to our great army of readers, we wish a merry Christmas.

## The Lessons of 1903.

The year of 1903 is a memorable year in the financial history of the United States. We produced in the year a bumper crop of corn, an average crop of wheat and a fairly good crop of cotton. Corn has been selling at 40 cents per bushel, wheat about 80 cents and cotton at from 12 to 14 cents per pound.

Our export trade has shown a decided increase during the past several months; most of the manufacturing industries are in good condition, and trade generally has been fine. We have imported about \$2,000,000 in gold, and the amount of money in circulation is greater in aggregate and greater per capita than ever before in our history. Labor is generally and profitably employed, and the whole country is prosperous.

But in spite of these conditions there has been a tremendous fall in the price of stocks, and but for the fact that the country was so generally prosperous, there must have been a disastrous financial panic.

How is this fall in prices to be accounted for? What is the real trouble? All sorts of theories have been advanced, but it is hard to find any two men who are entirely agreed. If this land had been afflicted with some peculiar disease, affecting the people generally, all the medical experts would have gone to work to discover the cause and probably they would have had a convention for discussion, in the hope of ascertaining the cause and the remedy. But the disease which has affected the financial world has received no such attention. Doctors here and doctors there have expressed their opinions, but there has been no concert of action, and it has not been definitely and satisfactorily determined what is the cause and what is the remedy.

We have an interesting experience, and we should profit by it, but we cannot profit unless the disease be scientifically and accurately diagnosed. The occasion should not be permitted to pass away in doubt and uncertainty. The doctors of finance should exert themselves to the utmost to discover the true cause of the trouble, that the nation may take warning and profit by experience.

## Books for Children.

Every now and then we read in the newspapers of some boy who has been led into mischief by a bad book. We fear that many parents are entirely too careless on this important subject. They permit their boys, and maybe their girls, to read books of a vicious nature, and such books are sure to have their influences. That which a child reads makes a deeper impression than that which a child hears, and the impression is deeper still when the reading matter is in the form of a thrilling adventure or a sentimental romance.

Most parents are careful in the selection of food for the bodies of their children, and will not permit them to eat articles that they know to be hurtful. It is a strange thing, indeed, that such parents should not exercise the same care in selecting food for the minds and morals of their little ones.

Children are more impressionable than adults, and it is a matter of the greatest consequence to their moral welfare that their reading should be wholesome. It is not alone the vicious books that make mischief for children. The goody-goody books for the boys and the sickly sentimental novels for the girls are only less bad than the books of the dime novel variety. When a boy reads a goody-goody book about a goody-goody boy, he either does not believe the story at all, or, if he does, he is apt to have a contempt for the hero, and to be driven away from the truth. He is apt to say within himself, if that boy's life is a good life, and if that boy's ways are good ways, he would rather be bad. And, as for the girls, when they read sickly, sentimental trash, they are apt to be led into false notions about love and duty. We have no doubt that many a girl has been induced to run away and marry some worthless chap, romancing under the influence of some silly novel.

We want our boys to be manly and our

girls to be womanly, and parents should see to it that the books which the boys read and the books which the girls read are clean and wholesome and uplifting.

## Women in Civic Life.

It was reported in our news columns yesterday that the Town Insurance Company of Buchanan, Va., had held a bazaar and raised a sum of money for the public good.

"The purpose of the society," says our correspondent, "are for the improvement of the town in the way of cleaning the streets and making more attractive the appearance of the town. Under the stimulating influences of the society an improvement may already be noted, and with the co-operation of the Town Council, the systematic improvement of the streets and sidewalks is expected to begin."

The society is composed of women, and we commend its good example to the public-spirited women of Richmond. We are in sad need of just such an organization in this city.

## Tyranny by Lawless Strikers.

The striking livery drivers have gone to the trouble of demonstrating in an unmistakable manner that this city is in the clutch of lawless, shameless and merciless men. The nervous patience of the American who can endure insolence and oppression better than he can endure servility, who sincerely desires to improve his conditions, has permitted the reckless element that disgraces trades unionism to even force the city to accept of a livery company that does not remove the sick and wounded to hospitals, except in public ambulances, because strikers forbid the use of livery conveyances. To death comes to any home, it brings the union picket and threats of indecent strife to make a mockery of sorrow.

This humiliating and revolting situation is a natural consequence of the public's cringing attitude toward lawless strike-breakers. The livery company is familiar with the work of the slugs, as an alleged exponent of righteousness in trades unionism. The livery company is an old story. What wonder that, since the rights of the livery company are respected in no way by the union, the peaceful dead are now disfigured? Sentiment cannot restrain the lawless striker. Right is not to be respected even if it does not need to be. The demands on justice, since the bullet and the bloodshed are not troubled by any distinctions between right and wrong.

The public permits this sort of thing to go on, as a flock of sheep accepts the notions of a sheep-killing cur. It is failure to crush these contemptible aspects of riot and injustice. Absolutely unaccountable is the tolerance shown for lawlessness in their ranks by the great mass of trades unionists, who are individually good citizens, but who are collectively so bad that they submit indefinitely to the tyranny of miscreants, who wear the cloak of unionism and who are themselves behind the lawless element. Public forbearance itself is criminal when it sacrifices the rights of individuals and shuts the eyes of authority to lawless.

We Chicagoans who have chosen to live in this community until we have got to quit, compare with the lawless element every sort of lawlessness by trades unionists included. The city's "manhood" must assert itself by running this lawless element out of Chicago. By way of warning that we are in earnest in this matter, let us now compel the arrest and adequate punishment of all persons who interfere with the rites and ceremonies attending the burial of the dead.—Chicago Daily News.

The Chicago Daily News is owned and edited by Victor P. Lawson, of whom it was recently said by an eminent writer that he had done as much as any man in the profession to promote clean and honest journalism and public morals. What his paper says, therefore, on any subject is entitled to respect and consideration.

But the expression of the Chicago News is the expression generally of the American press on this outrage in Chicago. This condemnation has come from newspapers that are entirely friendly to organized labor, and well may the members of such organizations take the lesson to heart.

The outrageous conduct of the Chicago strikers has done the cause of organized labor incalculable harm. It has offended its friends, and given its enemies weapons for attack. It is unfortunate for organized labor that it should have in its ranks such extreme and heartless men as these members in Chicago have shown themselves to be. No cause can prosper which is not founded upon correct principles, and which is not conducted according to the recognized rules of civilization. No organization in the United States is strong enough to do wrong and yet succeed.

Public opinion is the strongest force in this country, or in any country, and no man of organization which defies it can prosper. Labor unionism has the sympathy of the masses. But it will not return that sympathy if union men generally follow the example of the Chicago hackmen. If labor unionism ever fails, it will not be through its enemies, but because of the misconduct of its own members. There is a warning in the Chicago incident and the universal condemnation and denunciation which it has secured.

## Hanna's Illness.

Senator Hanna has been quite ill, but is improving, though slowly. On that point there seems to be no doubt. Sometimes public men allow themselves to be reported as unwell for political reasons, and here it might be said that the distinguished Ohioan was preparing the way to lay down—most positively—the chairmanship of the National Committee. But, in the first place, he already has announced his purpose to pursue that course, and, in the next, there can be no question that he is suffering from a breakdown.

Furthermore, it may be doubted if Mr. Hanna would be at ease in the chairmanship next year. He is supposed to have "a sneaking desire" for the presidential nomination, and there is no present prospect that he could get it; yet, in the event of the failure of any of the committee's work, it would be easy to insinuate that he had been lukewarm.

And so Mr. Hanna not only has refused to consider the chairmanship question any longer, but has made it known that his purpose is unalterable, and this the President knows. Mr. Roosevelt's preference is for Mr. Root, but that gentleman begs to be excused, and now W. Murray Crane, of Massachusetts, and Franklin Murphy, of New Jersey, are mentioned as Mr. Hanna's successor.

## Good Investments.

With most people Christmas is a season of enjoyment and festivity, and yet, especially with those of us who are getting along in life, it is also a season of reflection, a season when we remember, when our minds run back to Christmas seasons of the past, and especially over the incidents of the past year. In such times of reflection what is it that we delight to remember? In thinking over the words we have spoken during the year, do we love to think of the smart sayings and the sharp sayings? Do we think most pleasantly of the words which hurt or the words spoken in kindness, the words of comfort and consolation and good cheer? And thinking over our actions, do we delight most in what we have done for ourselves or what we have done for others? In running over our accounts, do we derive most pleasure from the money which we have expended to gratify our own appetites, and to promote our own selfish pleasures, or the money which we have given away to relieve distress or to give pleasure to our loved ones?

The time will come when we shall go hence, and in the great hereafter we shall have nothing of the things of this world except our recollections; throughout all eternity we shall have to remember what we said and what we did during the natural life. Therefore, it is good sense and good providence to lay up for ourselves a good store of good recollections, which shall be to us a comfort and a joy forever. If our stock of such things is small and beggarly, it will be well to begin during the Christmas holiday to increase it, and to keep on increasing it in the new year and in the years that are yet to us.

It is a splendid investment that will yield an unending dividend through eternity.

## Divided Sentiment.

A special from Atlanta says that the Panama canal treaty has become an issue in Democratic politics in Georgia. United States Senators Bacon and Clay are inclined to oppose the treaty and condemn President Roosevelt, while National Committeemen Howell and Governor Terrell laud the President and demand the ratification of the treaty. As Howell and Terrell have the Senate in view, an interesting situation is created.

There is much division of sentiment on this subject. Everybody wants to see the canal built, but no true patriot wants to see the United States government do a gross wrong to a weak republic. Our government cannot afford to profit by its own misdoings. The moral question involved must be settled first.

The ancient State house at Annapolis, Md., has been enlarged by an annex which will afford accommodations for the legislative department of the State government and its committees. These rooms will be so far completed by January 6th that they may be occupied by the new Legislature which is then to meet.

Both of the old chambers were found entirely unsuitable and extremely uncomfortable. At every session many members were made ill by the lack of ventilation, and the unreliable heating appliances.

The costs of these improvements will be over half a million dollars. So far \$250,000 have been expended, but the building commission thinks an additional appropriation of something like \$400,000 will be needed. A marble portico, which it is proposed to erect, will cost something like \$60,000. The annex is more than twice as large as the old State house. The main floor will be occupied by the corridor, which is a continuation of the original rotunda, the House and Senate chambers with offices for the use and comfort of members.

The basement floor (entirely above ground) will be used for committee rooms. It is designed to restore the old Senate chamber to its ancient and historic form and retain it possibly as a kind of museum. The old hall of the House will be kept for use for public hearings, before legislative committees, etc.

There will be no fires in the State house; a heating plant has been constructed at a considerable distance from it. The new building will be fire proof in all respects.

The Savannah News says that every one is asking: "What is it that causes such poor collections?" It seems that this inquiry is general in business circles there. The most reasonable answer the News has secured is from Manager Willett, of the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Works, who says the cause "for the present status of collections in all lines of business" is that farmers are "holding out for 15c. cotton."

Mr. Willett is confident that there are hundreds and hundreds of planters throughout the State of Georgia who believe the price of cotton will go up to 15c., and they are holding on to what money they have and staving off their obligations as long as possible.

The explanation given is plausible, but the planters probably will find that the old "pay as you go" plan is better.

A few days ago Mr. W. H. Fleeharty, of Memphis, gave a dinner to between seventy-five and one hundred persons, and "possum, livers and persimmon beer" were notable articles on the menu. Fourteen "possums" were served on the occasion, and, in addition, there were many other delicacies of the season, all served in the most appetizing manner. To wash down the dinner a fifty gallon barrel of persimmon beer was drunk.

The persimmon beer served was made from a number of varieties of persimmons grown in Mr. Fleeharty's yard, the seeds of which were brought by him from more than half a dozen different countries.

Soon after the close of the Confederate war, when Virginia was under the control of the Federal military, many marriage licenses were issued without strict regard to what was, or what had been, the law on the subject, but they all held good so far as we can recollect. They were issued by persons who had the color of authority for their action. Whether the Legislature afterwards passed acts "validating" these marriages or not, we do not remember. Probably it did, but in any event the marriages would have

Southern people and newspapers have great difficulty in locating their countrymen in the Senate in line on the Panama Canal bill. The line question is something besides the race question.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

"This true, 'tis good, and good 'tis true."

## INTEREST DEEPENS

As the List of Good Southern Folk Cured Lengthens.

## MUNYON'S PAW-PAW

The Talk of Every Home and Household.

## MRS. ENGLEBERG

Says Munyon's Paw-Paw Cured Whole Family.



Not only myself, but every one of my children, have been long suffering with cough and colds. Even my husband has not been free from the same trouble. We tried various remedies, some of which helped for a day, but only for a day or two. We began upon a bottle of Paw-Paw and the result was wonderful. It seemed to clear the chest, to purify the blood and so adjust digestion that our coughing and clogged chests were speedily improved. We can all now eat, drink and digest our food, and I can most heartily recommend Paw-Paw, believing that it has been the cure of the entire family.

(Signed.) MRS. J. ENGLEBERG, 208 N. Fourth St., Richmond, Va.

Don't let the skeptical stop you from making a trial of Paw-Paw to-day. You're the one that is most interested. If you have Catarrh, try it. If you have Dyspepsia, try it. If you are Nervous, try it. If you are despondent, try it. If you are weak and run down, try it. Cast away all notions of medicine and all stimulants and let Munyon's Paw-Paw make you well. It will lift you into the high altitudes of hope and hold you there. It will give exhilaration without intoxication.

Sold by all druggists. Large bottle, \$1. Paw-Paw Laxative Pills, 25c. a bottle.

held. So, too, in the case now attracting public attention. While it would be well for the General Assembly to ratify the acts of the clerks in issuing the licenses in question, the marriages will hold good anyhow.

Shopkeepers and their employees, letter carriers, expressmen and some hundreds of others that we might mention are not among those who lament that "Christmas comes but once a year."

What they enjoy most is not its coming, but its going; but they must not complain. It is their fortune to be the means of bringing much happiness to others.

Before we indigne too much, let us assure ourselves that much of the indignation over the Panama business is not inspired by the influence of the transcontinental railroads.

The Hon. Mr. Reyes, from Colombia, does not seem to be in any great hurry to settle that Panama business. He is having such a good time in Washington.

The longest Legislature in recent Virginia history has about fifteen more days to live, and then we will have a little short one.

After all, Farmville had to import her Christmas grog.

Peace on earth and good will to men—outside of Russia, Japan, Colombia and a few dozen other halfwicks.

The probability is that before night there will be some people to wish that it came only once in a decade.

Out in the rural regions Christmas laps over into the New Year. In town it is different—very different.

Will somebody kindly tell us what is there wrong about the Honorable Mr. Smoot, of Utah?

Tradesmen who were dependent on holiday shopping owe the Weather Bureau a vote of thanks.

If you have no stocking convenient, any kind of an old bag will do.

A plausible excuse for the old-time egg-nog will be floating around in some parts to-day.

Keep sober. If you can't keep perfectly sober, keep as sober as you can.

Let us rejoice that so many turkeys kept over from Thanksgiving.

Did Santa Claus send you all you asked for?

Merry Christmas this morning.

With a Comment or Two.

A Richmond Justice on Monday fined a prisoner two dollars and a half "for being such an ass." Should this offense be made a punishable one (and it should be), and if the justices throughout the State were to rigidly enforce the collection of fines, Virginia's public debt could soon be paid off.—Alexandria Gazette.

But the people would soon be bankrupt.

As announced in another column, we will suspend our labors in the office of the Virginian for a week's observance of the Christmas holidays.—Southside Virginian.

A whole week! What a glorious thing it must be to live and print papers in the country.

The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot has a Richmond special, under the heading, "Sensational Incident in the Oyster Fight." Oysters have been doing a long time, but when they get to fighting it is evident that a del of a stew is on.—Wilmington Star.

So it has been, but the stew has simmered down now.

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## Trend of Thought In Dixie Land

Nashville American: We are too near the fruition of our hopes of a canal to let the present opportunity for building it at the most advantageous point on the isthmus pass us by in the hope of party advantage.

Birmingham News: When one reads of Mr. W. J. Bryan hobnobbing with the czar of Russia one naturally recalls some of the former's political utterances and wonders what has come over the spirit of his dreams.

Mobile Register: Harper's Weekly says, "It is a pity that Mr. Roosevelt is not the only champion of Democratic success lies in convincing the people that Mr. Roosevelt is unsafe." Let Mr. Roosevelt alone for that.

Atlanta Journal: The civilized world has long ago acquitted Captain Dreyfus of every charge his accusers made, and his beloved him to have been the victim of one of the most infamous conspiracies that ever disgraced French history. And every man of whatever clime, who loves fairness and believes in justice, will rejoice with Captain Dreyfus at the prospect of his approaching vindication.

Houston Post: It is announced that cotton mills can not close because of the numerous orders they have that must be filled. It is announced also that they have a sufficient supply of cotton on hand to keep them from being at all affected by the present high price of that commodity. These two announcements do not appear to leave much reason for the recent wage reduction.

## A Few Foreign Facts.

The hottest place on earth is Bohreim, on an island in the Persian Gulf, which has a mean annual temperature of 93 degrees.

The London "Engineer" says that the production of potatoes in Germany has been even more important in the future on account of the increasing consumption of potato alcohol for automobile purposes.

Experiments in cotton growing are for the most part being conducted in the British colonies and dependencies, but it also has been carried on in the United States, French, Portuguese and Italian colonies. Russia is putting forth energetic efforts to increase the production of cotton in the Caucasus, and Cuba is mentioned as a likely cotton-producing country.

Baron Kuno Freilher von Eltz, a member of the German nobility, about twenty-six years of age, is employed on a "sawyer" in the locomotive department of the Michigan Central Railroad at Jackson Junction, Mich. He is connected with the railway department of the German government as a special appointee to learn what he can of American methods of railroading.

A public museum at Brighton, England, has adopted custom which should be followed elsewhere. Persons are encouraged to bring in fresh bunches of local wild flowers, culled during their walks, to one of the officials, who arranges the specimens each morning in glass vases containing water and alkali, both the botanical and English names of the flowers which they have seen growing wild, but regarding which they have had no information.

## Personal and General.

Bryant Barber, of Erie, Ill., will give twice as much if the people will return Mr. Carnegie's \$100,000 to a public library.

Mrs. Mary E. Shatt, an aunt of Mrs. William McKinley, widow of the late President, has just died in Birmingham, Ala.

Rev. John Cotton Brooks, brother of the late Bishop Phillips Brooks, has just celebrated his twenty-fifth anniversary as rector of Christ Church, Episcopal Church at Springfield, Mass.

Dr. F. E. Clark, the Christian Endeavor leader, has been given a reception in Boston, prior to his starting on Christmas Day for a tour around the world. Among the speakers were Rev. Mr. D. A. Wilson, of Paris, a son of the historian and an official of the Christian Endeavor Union in France.

Although Andrew Carnegie formerly lived in Pittsburgh and has donated several millions of dollars toward the advancement of education, he does not own a dollar's worth of property in that city. He once bought a lot on an out-of-the-way thoroughfare, but he gave it away to a charitable institution.

## North Carolina Sentiment.

Here's a sample of the Durham Herald's fine shooting. Of course, there will be empty stockings on Christmas Eve, but every man who wants to talk up will find the means.

The Salisbury Sun says: We are advised that Governor Aycock is an actual candidate for the Vice Presidency, and not just hankering after a complimentary vote. The only question is would the selection of Mr. Aycock as a Vice President strengthen the ticket. This business of naming candidates with no hope of their election is becoming monotonous.

The Greensboro Telegram says: It was not surprising that both the North Carolina senators were in favor of a proposition to make caucus action binding. The average North Carolina Democrat believes in the rule of the majority and not the rule of the individual. That is, he believes that two heads are better than one.

The Raleigh News-Observer observes: It might be well for Uncle Sam to hold up his hands and say, "I intend to pay for the canal construction so that he may deduct from it whatever of incidental expenses in the way of warlike preparations he may be put to."

## Respectfully Submitted.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir—I wish to call attention to the ill-condition of the great monument in Capitol Square. Our Virginia worthies are covered with a heavy coat of green. Their sorry appearance is a reproach to us all, and must certainly give a bad impression to visitors. If we cannot care for the monuments, we have, even the greatest of them, perhaps it may not be worth while to plan so many new ones.

Richmond, Va., December 23.

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## TIMES-DISPATCH

Business Office.

## To All Our Friends, The Season's Greetings:

It is with a great deal of pleasure to tell you that through your help alone we have done by far the largest December business of our existence. We are unwilling to allow the opportunity to pass to express our thanks. Wishing you a merry Christmas,

We are Yours Truly,

THE COHEN CO.

## ... FOUNTAIN PENS ...

Our Rosendorf Special, \$1.00. WORTH DOUBLE.

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Dressed Chickens and Turkeys at Low Prices.

Best American Granulated Sugar, 4 1/2c  
Fresh Country Eggs, dozen, 30c  
3 pounds California Peaches for 25c  
New Seeded Raisins, 1 lb. package, 10c  
Home-Made Mince Meat, pound, 6c  
Mountain Roll Butter, lb., 15c  
Small California Hams, pound, 9c  
2 pounds New Hominy and Oats for 5c  
Three pounds Seedless Raisins for 25c  
Large Juicy Lemons, dozen, 12c  
Best City Meal, per peck, 18c  
or, bushel, 65c  
New Cleaned Currants, 1 lb. package, 7c  
Best Cream Cheese, pound, 15c  
Canned Tomatoes, large cans, 8c  
Large Malaga Grapes, pound, 10c  
Good Lard, pound, 8c  
Whole Sweet Pickles, quart, 10c  
Olib